

Amendments to the Claims:

1-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) An improved lighting apparatus for backlighting a liquid crystal display ~~in the cockpit of an aircraft, that may be viewed by a pilot wearing NVIS-A or NVIS-B night vision goggles~~, the lighting apparatus comprising:
- a. a pair of light emitting diode arrays disposed on a plane perpendicular to the plane of the liquid crystal display, each light emitting diode array having a plurality of different groups of like colored light emitting diodes;
 - b. light pipes parallel to the plane of the liquid crystal display for transmitting light from said light emitting diode arrays into the plane of said liquid crystal display for providing illumination thereof; and
 - c. filters disposed between each of the arrays and the light pipes for filtering out infra-red light from the light emitting diodes; and
 - d. ~~a switch for selectively powering different groups of like colored light emitting diodes in the arrays or powering all the light emitting diodes in the arrays;~~
- ~~whereby the lighting apparatus is switchable for use with NVIS-A and NVIS-B night vision goggles.~~
8. (Currently Amended) The lighting apparatus of Claim 7 wherein each light emitting diode array includes different groups of like colored diodes, each group emitting only red green or blue light, and each group emitting a different colored light than any other of the different groups of the light emitting diode array.

9-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method for illuminating a liquid crystal display in an aircraft cockpit for viewing by a pilot person wearing NVIS-A or NVIS-B night-vision goggles, the steps of the method comprising:
 - a. activating an array of light emitting diodes having a plurality of different groups of like colored light emitting diodes adjacent the liquid crystal display;
 - b. transmitting light from the light emitting diode array into the plane of the liquid crystal display to illuminate the liquid crystal display;
 - c. filtering infra-red light emitted by the array of light emitting diodes before it is transmitted to the liquid crystal display; and,
 - d. selectively switching on ~~different groups~~ a first group of like colored light emitting diodes in the array but not all the light emitting diodes in the array ~~or switching on all the light emitting diodes in the array so that if the pilot of the aircraft may use person is wearing NVIS-A or NVIS-B night vision goggles and selectively switching on a second group of like colored light emitting diodes in the array or switching on all the light emitting diodes in the array if the person is wearing NVIS-B night vision goggles.~~
16. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 15 wherein the step of switching on a first group of like colored light emitting diodes further includes consists essentially of switching on groups of like colored only green light emitting diodes emitting only green red or only blue light emitting diodes.
- 17-20. (Cancelled)
21. (Previously Presented) The improved lighting apparatus of Claim 7 wherein the filters are adapted for NVIS-B goggles letting a small amount of red light through.

22. (Currently Amended) The improved light apparatus of Claim 21 wherein ~~when NVIS-B goggles are worn by the pilot, the switch is set to light all the light emitting diodes in the arrays each light emitting diode array of the pair of light emitting diode arrays includes both red and non-red light emitting diodes, and the apparatus further comprises a switch coupled to the light emitting diode arrays in such a manner that the switch is operable to cause the red light emitting diodes of both of the light emitting diode arrays to switch on or off without causing the non-red light emitting diodes of either of the light emitting diode arrays to switch on or off.~~
23. (Currently Amended) The improved lighting apparatus of Claim [21] 22 wherein ~~NVIS-A goggles are worn by the pilot, the switch is set to light only one different group of like colored light emitting diodes in the array the switch is coupled to the light emitting diode arrays in such a manner that the switch is also operable to cause a group of the non-red light emitting diodes that emit blue or green light to switch on or off.~~
24. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 15 wherein the filtering step further comprises letting a small amount of red light through.
25. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 15 wherein in the selectively switching step, ~~when if NVIS-B goggles are worn by the pilot person, all the light emitting diodes in the array are switched on.~~
- 26-27. (Cancelled)
28. (Currently Amended) An improved lighting apparatus for backlighting a liquid crystal display that may be viewed by a person wearing NVIS-A or NVIS-B night vision goggles, the lighting apparatus comprising:
a light emitting diode array having a plurality of different groups of like colored light emitting diodes disposed to back-light the liquid crystal display;
a sheet of light pipes;

a filter disposed between the light emitting diode array and the ~~liquid crystal display~~ ~~light pipes~~ for filtering out infra-red light from the light emitting diodes; and a switch for selectively powering different groups of like colored light emitting diodes in the array or powering all the light emitting diodes in the array; whereby the lighting apparatus is switchable for use with NVIS A and NVIS B night vision goggles.

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 28 wherein the light emitting diode array comprises red light emitting diodes and non-red light emitting diodes, and the apparatus further comprises a switch for addressing only the red light emitting diodes of the light emitting diode array.
30. (New) The apparatus of claim 29 wherein the light emitting diode array comprises blue and green light emitting diodes, and the apparatus further comprises a switch for addressing only the blue light emitting diodes and a switch for addressing only the green light emitting diodes.
31. (New) The apparatus of claim 30 wherein the apparatus further comprises a fluorescent light source positioned to transmit light through the sheet of light pipes, the fluorescent light source being positioned and oriented to emit light into the sheet through a side of the sheet other than a side of the sheet into which the array of light emitting diodes emits light.
32. (New) The apparatus of claim 31 wherein the apparatus comprises at least two light emitting diode arrays, each diode array having a plurality of different groups of like colored light emitting diodes disposed to back-light the liquid crystal display, wherein the at least two diode arrays are positioned adjacent to different sides of the sheet of light pipes.

33. (New) The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising a switch coupled to the light emitting diode arrays in such a manner that operating the switch causes red light emitting diodes of the light emitting diode arrays to switch on or off but does not cause blue or green light emitting diodes of the light emitting diode arrays to switch on or off.
34. (New) The apparatus of claim 33 wherein the light pipes are part of a sheet of light pipes, and the apparatus further comprises a fluorescent light source positioned to transmit light through the sheet of light pipes, the fluorescent light source being positioned and oriented to emit light into the sheet through a side of the sheet other than the sides of the sheet into which the arrays of light emitting diodes emits light.